

Appl. No. 10/791,598
Amdt. Dated November 6, 2006
Reply to Office Action of August 9, 2006

Attorney Docket No. 81864.0030
Customer No.: 26021

(Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to FIG. 6. In FIG. 6, previously omitted element --Prior Art-- has been added.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet
Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

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REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated August 9, 2006. Claims 9-14, 28, 29 and 32 remain in this application. Claims 9 and 28 are the independent Claims. Claim 28 has been amended. New Claim 32 has been added. It is believed that no new matter is involved in the amendments or arguments presented herein. Reconsideration and entrance of the amendment in the application are respectfully requested.

Restriction Requirement

In response to the Restriction Requirement, Applicants elected Group I, claims 9-14, 28 and 29, without traverse. Claims 1-8, 15-27, 30 and 31 are canceled, without prejudice.

Allowable Subject Matter

On page 4 of the Action, Claims 9-14 were indicated to be allowed. Applicant thanks the Examiner and formally recognizes the allowed Claims 9-14.

Drawing Objections

On page 2 of the Action, the drawings were objected according to MPEP § 608.02(g). In response, FIG. 6 has been amended to address the above objection in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection are respectfully requested.

Art-Based Rejections

Claims 28 and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,898,516 (Shirai).

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections and submits that the claims herein are patentable in light of the amendments above and arguments below.

The Shirai Reference

Shirai is directed to a Faraday rotator formed of a bismuth-substituted iron garnet single crystal film grown by a liquid phase epitaxial method. (*See Shirai; Abstract*)

The Claims are Patentable Over the Cited References

The present application is generally directed to a hard magnetic garnet material, a Faraday rotator and a method of manufacturing thereof.

As defined by amended independent Claim 28, a Faraday rotator using a bismuth-substituted rare earth iron garnet single crystal is comprised of front and back surfaces placed opposite to each other in a predetermined distance and sides formed around the front and back surfaces. Fine projections and depressions are formed uniformly on at least one side of the sides, by using a wire saw.

The applied references do not disclose or suggest the features of the present invention as defined by amended independent Claim 28. In particular, the applied references do not disclose or suggest "fine projections and depressions are formed uniformly on at least one side of said sides, by using a wire saw," as required by amended independent Claim 28.

Shirai merely discloses that "Faraday rotator 1 is formed and grown by a liquid phase epitaxial method." (*See Shirai; Col . 2, lines 43-45*). In contrast, amended independent Claim 28 requires fine projections and depressions formed by a wire saw that provides the advantage of reduced chipping during cutting to obtain excellent magnetic properties. (*See Specification; Paragraph [0124]*). Shirai does not disclose this feature.

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Thus, Shirai does not disclose or suggest this feature of the present invention as required by amended independent Claim 28.

Since Shirai does not disclose or suggest each and every element of amended independent Claim 28, the applied reference cannot be said to anticipate the invention which is the subject matter of that claim.

Accordingly, amended independent Claim 28 is believed to be in condition for allowance and such allowance is respectfully requested.

The remaining claims depend directly from amended independent Claim 28 and recite additional features of the invention which are neither disclosed nor fairly suggested by the applied references and are therefore also believed to be in condition for allowance.

New Claims

New Claim 32 is based on original claim 28 and is dependent on independent Claim 9. Since Claim 9 is allowed, it is believed that new Claim 32 recites additional features of the invention which are neither disclosed nor fairly suggested by the applied references and are therefore believed to be in condition for allowance and such allowance is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are requested.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles, California telephone number (310) 785-4721 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

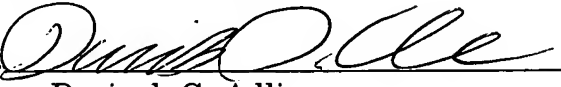
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If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-1314.

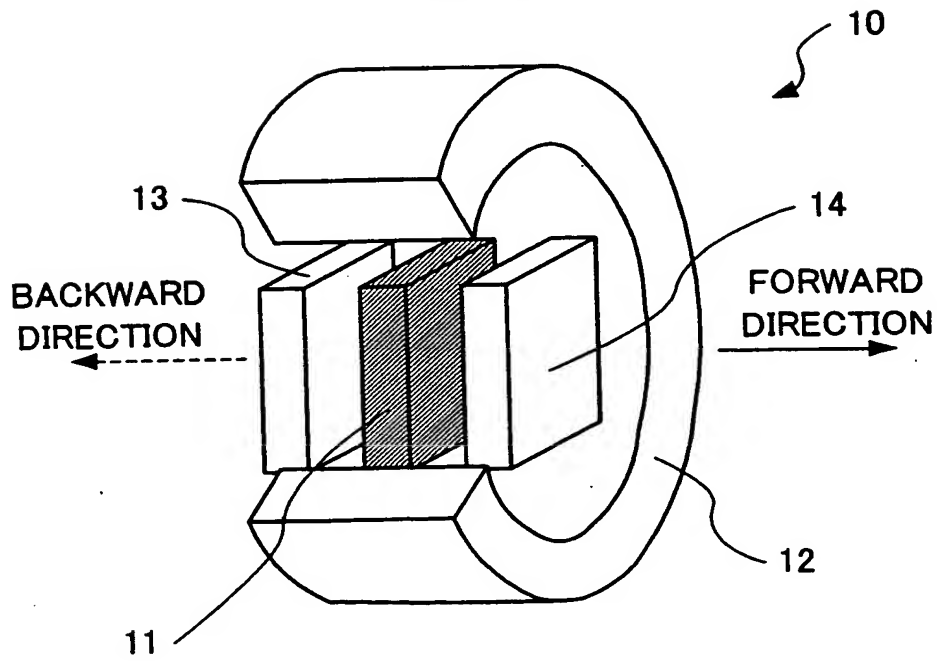
Respectfully submitted,
HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

Date: November 6, 2006

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FIG. 6



Prior Art